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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Extension Service Office of Exhibits

A Summary of the Exhibit.

#### SAVING FRUIT FROM FROST

The purpose of this exhibit is to show the value of heaters in saving fruit from frost.

## Specifications.

## SAVING FRUIT FROM FROST

## How It Looks.

This exhibit, made to represent the living room of a citrus farmer, tells a story in three acts. On the left side of the "room" is seen a cutout figure of the farmer who is listening to the radio and has just received information from the Weather Bureau that the forecast for that night is a low temperature liable to injure his crop of oranges.

Thru the central window can be seen his orange grove made up with minature imitation trees and heaters in the foreground and the balance of the scene a painted background. The heaters can be seen arranged

to protect the orchard.

Thru the window on the right section can be seen the farmer, the next morning, figuring out the cost of using heaters which saved his \$10,000.00 crop of oranges the night before. Real heaters and other equipment are shown and the story of how the heating is done is told by text on a placard on an easel in the front part of the booth.

# , What It Tells.

Damage by frost has long been a source of loss, from time to time, to fruit growers in the United States. While there is no way through human agency to regulate the weather or prevent frost, in recent years many orchardists have taken action to combat this menace to fruit by protecting their orchards. Theoretically, there are three things that may be done to prevent frost damage: (1) By stirring the lower layers of the atmosphere by means of fans, or otherwise, which under certain conditions will prevent the formation of frosts: (2) Checking radiation from the Earth's surface at night, by covering trees or plants with cloth, paper, or anything that will prevent radiation, and (3) by heating the air

near the Earth's surface by means of a large number of small fires. This latter method has proven most successful and large numbers of orchard heaters are now being used in some sections of the country. Orchard heating, at the present time, is practised more extensively in the Pacific Coast States, with several million heaters now in operation. They burn cheap, crude oil, and the custom has been so well established that in many places it is now considered indispensable in the growing of both citrus and deciduous fruits.

#### Where to Get Information.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 1096, which may be obtained free of charge from the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. contains much information on the subject of frost and methods to prevent damage by it.

